President’s Message

Get Involved!

By the time you are reading this message, the 2011 Tri-State ASLA Conference—“Design of the Times”—will be only weeks away. The Executive and Conference committees have invested an extraordinary amount of time to make this the biggest and best conference the Chapter has seen in almost ten years. Members from our co-host ASLA Chapters (South Carolina and North Carolina), neighboring ASLA Chapters (Alabama and Florida), and allied professions (USGBC-GA, GUFC, GGIA, and MALTA) have all been invited to participate in this truly regional conference. We have recruited local and national speakers to present topics relevant to the profession today, organized tours that will broaden your views of landscape architecture, and solicited inspiring projects for the Awards & Honors Banquet. These events represent over 15 hours of continuing education opportunities available in one conference.

Our sponsors have eagerly signed on to support the Conference. We will be featuring nearly thirty vendors throughout the Conference. Most will be featuring their latest industry developments and services available in our dedicated Exposition Hall. It is our sponsors’ generosity that allows us to make the Conference affordable. They value the relationships we build together and want to be involved with our profession.

We have done all we can to plan a great Conference. Now it is up to you to make it truly a success. Support the Georgia Chapter and their sponsors by attending this premier event for landscape architects and allied professionals. Yes, I’ll be there. Will you? It is time to get involved again!

Brandon P. White, ASLA, LEED AP BD+C
President
ASLA - Georgia Chapter
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Holiday Party Becomes Catalyst for Community Service

In December, Atlanta design professionals gathered for the Atlanta Red & Green Scene holiday party. What started as a simple year-end celebration among design professionals would later evolve into a collaboration for civic improvement. Leaders of each professional organization in attendance (ASLA-GA, AIA, ASHRAE, ASPE, CSI, GSEA, IIDA, and USGBC) formed a committee to volunteer their time and expertise for the benefit of the Atlanta community. This “RAGS” committee (Red & Green Scene), led by Liset Robinson, would ultimately organize collaborative design services for the City of Atlanta’s Adams Park. Though the Adams Park project had begun months before, the party became the catalyst for recruiting volunteers.

As the southern sister to Chastain Park, Adams Park was originally designed in the 1930s by landscape architect William Monroe. Both parks were intended to stimulate growth and residential development outside the city core. Over 150 acres, Adams Park is home to the 18-hole Alfred Tup Holmes Golf Course, a recreation center with gymnasium, a pool and swim center, three little league fields, four tennis courts, a large picnic pavilion, a playground, and 1.75-acre pond.

The City of Atlanta provided a list of needs and wants for the park. These included recommendations for a pending renovation to the existing recreation center, LEED-certification analysis for that center, a pilot study for renewable energy, and a comprehensive long-term plan for the entire park.

The RAGS committee proposed that a one-day charrette be organized to focus on three key areas: the recreation center, the pond edge, and the picnic area. The recreation center would be assessed for sustainable renovation options, site accessibility improvements, and a conceptual design for 1,200 additional square feet of space. Renovation and rehabilitation options would be explored for the pond edge and picnic area.

What became clear immediately was the large role that ASLA-GA was going to play in this volunteer charrette. Your professional society, in conjunction with YLa-Atlanta, volunteered over 190 hours of time to organizing, coordinating, and implementing the charrette itself. Ultimately, a 50-page Conceptual Sustainability Study was produced by chapter volunteers as the final deliverable to the City of Atlanta.

The study was the artifact of a great deal of work by committed volunteers over approximately six months. The work began in September 2010 when the City of Atlanta provided a comprehensive list of needs and wants. In October, an on-site tour with city officials was conducted to gather all available base information.

The initial site visit revealed extensive erosion problems, excessively steep accessibility routes, and a landscape overrun with invasive species of plants. Yet beneath these problems lay wonderful examples of historic landscape architecture: arched stone bridges, granite walls, picturesque streams, and granite bluffs. Adams Park had simply fallen into disrepair.

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Holiday Party Becomes Catalyst for Community Service

Joni Young and Charles Sears began accumulating a team of enthusiastic volunteers. A newly formed young leaders group, YLa-Atlanta, was solicited for participation along with students from the University of Georgia and Georgia Tech. Other professionals, both within and outside the field of landscape architecture, would join the team as well.

In January, the Adams Park Design Charette officially commenced. Jared Dobbs and Veronica Pimentel, both landscape architecture students at the University of Georgia, presented a thorough historic overview of Adams Park for the benefit of the group. Paul Taylor (Director of Park Design) and Anne Marie Moraitakis (Office of Cultural Affairs) addressed the group on behalf of the City of Atlanta. Then members from ASLA-GA, AIA, and IIDA assembled to discuss an approach to the recreation center design. Once a general plan was agreed upon, the groups separated to focus on the areas within their scope. Concepts were pinned up for critique during lunch. The remainder of the afternoon was spent refining concepts and collaborating ideas between each professional discipline. At the end of the day, the concepts were approximately 75% complete.

In the following week, volunteers would meet after work at either the offices of Reece, Hoopes & Fincher or various kitchen tables throughout Atlanta. Charles Sears, Louie Northern, Thomas Nichols, and Erin Nichols successfully fleshed out preliminary concepts and rendered each design. When final deliverables from each professional group were consolidated by volunteers from our chapter, the City of Atlanta possessed a thorough, professionally-produced Conceptual Sustainability Study.

This is your professional association at work promoting the value of landscape architecture.

ASLA-GA & YLa-Atlanta Participants
(Listed Alphabetically)

Ross Bongiovi, Georgia Tech (student)
Mark Bullard*, Innovative Outdoors
Jared Dobbs, University of Georgia (student)
Scott Jones*, Site Solutions LLC
Erin Nichols, T+E Design
Thomas Nichols, ERTH Products
Louis Northern, AECOM
Veronica Pimentel, University of Georgia (student)
Charles Sears*, Reece, Hoopes & Fincher Inc.
Susan Watts
Kamara Williams*, TY LIN International
Joni P. Young*, Young Squared Studios

*denotes ASLA-GA Executive Committee member

See: http://www.ylaatlanta.com/volunteer/adams-park-charrette
Two ASLA Membership Scholarships Awarded by ASLA-GA

The ASLA-GA recognizes that one of its responsibilities is to support members in need. The Executive Committee wanted to ensure that the profession retains some of the most talented and enthusiastic Chapter participants—professionals committed to landscape architecture, but who may have fallen into economic hardship recently. It was for this reason that a committee was formed to award deserving candidates a scholarship to cover membership fees required of the ASLA. This committee was comprised of Tanya Mandel (Membership Chair), Gregg Hudspeth (Trustee) and Brian LaHaie (College of Environment and Design, UGA).

Scholarships were awarded to Jared Dobbs, second year student at the College of Environment and Design at the University of Georgia, and Matthew Christian Masters, RLA, M.C. Masters Design.

Jared Dobbs serves as secretary of the GSLA—the student chapter of the ASLA at the University of Georgia. He has taken an active role in the newly formed YLa (Young Landscape Architects) and is an ASLA student member. In addition to his school work, he runs a personal landscaping, lawn care and handyman service in Athens. Most recently, he contributed to the Adams Park community service project.

Matthew Christian Masters attended the University of Georgia, receiving a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture degree in 1987. He currently owns a landscape architecture firm in Suwanee and has worked on projects with the CNN Center/Omni Hotel Garden and Winmark Home. He has also worked for LSKP in Beijing, China where he received the International Design Competition award.

Both are deserving recipients of the membership scholarship. Congratulations, Jared and Matthew.
Tom Cousins: A Purpose-Built Life

Editor’s Note: The following is an article by Charles McNair previously published in Terry Magazine in Spring 2010. It is reprinted here with permission from the Terry College of Business at the University of Georgia. The ASLA-GA has invited Carol Naughton, Senior Vice President of Purpose Built Communities, to deliver the keynote address of the Opening Session of the 2011 Tri-State ASLA Conference. This article will introduce you to the model that inspired Purpose Built Communities: the Villages of East Lake.

Sobering words opened a news report on the afternoon of March 8, 2007. David Faber, host of CNBC’s video news magazine “Business Nation,” looked into the camera and introduced the country to the chilling story of Atlanta’s East Lake Meadows.


A generic 650-unit brick housing project known to locals and law enforcement personnel as “Little Vietnam,” East Lake Meadows manufactured an outsized percentage of the criminal population in The City Too Busy To Hate.

Then-Atlanta Mayor Shirley Franklin aired a candid confession in the CNBC feature. “I would never go into East Lake alone,” she admitted. “It was a completely dysfunctional community.”

“East Lake Meadows was a crime factory, the urban nightmare every city fears.”

The crime rate in East Lake Meadows ran at 18 times the national average. The employment rate — not unemployment rate — stood at 14 percent. The average age of a grandmother? Just 32. Only 5 percent of the children in the prison-like, windowless elementary school could pass the state math test, and three out of four kids left school with no diploma. The one thing that flourished in East Lake Meadows? An illegal, open-air drug trade worth $35 million a year. It must have been a sore temptation; residents averaged $4,000 a year in income, with 60 percent of them on welfare.

East Lake Meadows was a crime factory, the urban nightmare every city fears ... and most face, in one form or another. Still, stories like East Lake Meadows were old news. Too many housing projects had doomed the people they were built to serve. Human potential and billions of dollars had been squandered. It was a story so familiar and depressing that it begged for a quick click of the remote.

But then CNBC offered a twist.

Right there on the screen, East Lake Meadows fast-forwarded in time. Images of broken windows, piles of trash, and crack houses magically transformed into landscaped, two-story apartment buildings, brightly painted, immaculate. The dreary elementary school morphed into a dazzling new charter school, bright with glass walls and skylights, thrumming with the energy of children wild about learning ... instead of just wild. A weedy lot where angry men once glared over burning barrels was now a playground vibrant with families and pets.

What happened? What magic touched East Lake?

Not magic. A man who sparked a movement.

The renaissance of East Lake — and likely its enduring legacy — can be traced to the efforts of an iconic Atlanta business leader with University of Georgia and Terry College roots. A man hardheaded and iron-willed, who took a stand like a one-man Alamo against every practical reason to do absolutely nothing, to simply let East Lake be what it had always been — a dead end, from the very beginning.

The CNBC report held out the possibility that this man and his remarkable team had not only revived East Lake, but in the process came up with a workable national model for dealing with one of the most intractable problems of modern cities — how to transform slums into purposeful, productive communities.

It would come to be called the East Lake Model. It’s inventor was Tom Cousins.

In days following the CNBC report, hundreds of queries and letters of support arrived at the offices of the East Lake Foundation, the organization behind the make-over of the distressed Atlanta project. One note, characteristically short and simple surprised everyone. A businessman in the Midwest made an offer:

“I have seen a lot of attempts to do what you did. Most failed. You and your wife are to be really congratulated. If there are any projects you are working on at East Lake or elsewhere where you could use a little financial help, just let me know. I like to back up talent.”

Uber-investor Warren Buffet was putting his name and money — earnest money — on The East Lake Model. The Wizard of Omaha saw a concept that just might revitalize frozen communities all over America.

Today, The East Lake Model is going national. Guided by Purpose Built Communities — founded, like the East Lake Foundation, by Cousins — replication began this spring in Katrina-ravaged New Orleans, where the Bayou District Foundation team has spent four years preparing. Planners are also busy customizing the concept for projects in bustling urban settings like Memphis, Charlotte, and Indianapolis, and in smaller communities like Rome, Georgia.

Tom Cousins, Atlanta developer and the driving force behind the miracle of East Lake, has good help on the way.

Before it was known for crime, East Lake was known for golf. The course eclipsed Augusta National in its heyday and symbolized Atlanta’s resurgence from the ashes of the Civil War into a broad-shouldered economic powerhouse. Concurrent with the city’s rise in the 1920s was the rise of a golfing legend. Bobby Jones rambled away his boyhood in East Lake and drove first golf balls down the fairways of its country club. He considered East Lake his home golf course, and the elite of the game made pilgrimages to play on the storied layout.

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Tom Cousins: A Purpose-Built Life

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In 1970, the year before Jones died, the Atlanta Housing Authority constructed East Lake Meadows on the former Number 2 course of the club. This outdated housing policy merely perpetuated the concentration of poverty and crime, which in turn caused the real estate values to wilt. Soon, the average tenant of East Lake Meadows would be robbed three times a year. Addicts dropped needles where Bobby Jones learned to putt. The best of old Atlanta had become the worst.

“We went in there and did something, and you could see the good it did.”—Cousins

Enter Cousins. Following his graduation from the University of Georgia, the developer had been an important mover and shaker on the Atlanta scene, responsible for much of the distinctive downtown skyline of the South’s largest city. In 1992, Cousins built what was then the tallest building in the nation outside New York or Chicago, the NationsBank Building (now Bank of America Plaza).

Cousins also tried a few practice runs at redeveloping faded neighborhoods. He rejuvenated sections of Grant Park and Ansley Park, starting projects that stimulated new interest in lovely city sections past their prime.

“Ansley Park was the Haight-Ashbury of Atlanta,” says Cousins. “That area from 10th Street to 14th Street ... that was a war zone. We went in there and tried something, and you could see the good it did, like throwing a rock in a pond and watching the ripples go out. It was very gratifying.”

For 40 years, Cousins did well. And he did good, or tried to. An example. Decades back, Cousins partnered with the government under the National Housing Act to build 1,000 units of federal housing, taking pains to create good-looking, three-bedroom homes. He then watched in dismay as the neighborhoods reverted to slums again in three or four years. “It was one of the greatest blown opportunities there ever was,” he grumbles of the national urban renewal effort. “We changed the houses, but not the lives of the people who lived in them.”

Cousins tried again. This time, from a different angle. He’d discovered that a Minneapolis company, Control Data, had put a floppy disc factory into operation in a prison there — training prisoners in basic business and manufacturing skills, paying them, and putting their money into an account they could tap into after they’d served their time.

The number of these prison-entrepreneurs who returned to a life of crime “went to zip,” says Cousins, who approached the state of Georgia and offered to take “100 first-time offenders,” people without violent criminal records, and replicate the Minneapolis program here. He would teach prisoners to read and write, if needed, and give them some marketable job skills. For the annual cost of caring for a prisoner — $22,000 per year at the time — Cousins’ non-profit would “teach, train, guard, and have people serve out their term.”

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The state gave him a blunt answer. “You stay out of our business, and we’ll stay out of yours,” Cousins bitterly recalls a correction official telling him. It still gets his blood pressure up.

“Today, the capital cost per prisoner in Georgia isn’t $22,000 a year — it’s $40,000,” says Cousins. “In Connecticut, it’s $72,000 per person per year. Suppose we spent that much on education? Shoot, we could send them all to Oxford.”

The waste, human and financial, incensed a man who made his name as a judicious businessman, a wise steward of resources, a sharp trader. “People say, you little jelly-hearted so-and-so, you’re soft on crime, we need to put these offenders in jail and throw away the key. Well that’s not working. It’s just plain, good economic sense to fix what’s broken here,” he declares. “In California, they predict they’ll soon be spending more on prisons than on schools. What sense does that make? You want to get to kids before they become criminals.”

So Cousins tried. And tried again. Through the years, his foundation invested money in this problem and that — tens of millions of dollars is a reasonable guess. He gave to numerous social programs, but nothing seemed to change. “I really could not see what good the money was doing,” he says flatly. “We were putting on band-aids, not getting to the source.”

“We’d given a lot of money to a lot of things; but, we’d never given ourselves.” — Cousins

An epiphany arrived on Cousin’s desk, courtesy of a 1993 editorial in The New York Times. A Rutgers professor published findings from a study showing that 74 percent of all the prisoners in The Empire State came from just eight neighborhoods in New York City.

Astonished, Cousins contacted then-Atlanta police chief Eldrin Bell and asked if the same were true for Atlanta. It was, said Bell. And East Lake Meadows was the baddest of Atlanta’s three very bad metro neighborhoods. Most crime in the city metastasized from these dysfunctional neighborhoods. That news sealed the deal, for Cousins, who decided to pour his philanthropic energy and resources into a single challenge.

“We made East Lake our project,” he says. “I told people who came to the foundation for money that unless they were doing something in East Lake, we were out of business.” Cousins also decided to invest more than money. “We’d given a lot of money to a lot of things; but, we’d never given ourselves.”

Cousins grappled with the enormity of the challenge at first. Realistically, what were the prospects for East Lake? Where were nearby businesses to support the community? How do you fix an elementary school with a long history of failure? How could you boost the income levels, when you are dealing with mostly single-parent households, headed by people who, for the most part, lacked high school diplomas?

“The solution? Raze. Then Raise.”

So in 1993, Cousins developed a plan to knock down the government housing at East Lake Meadows and replace it with new and attractive mixed-income housing. The new development would draw middle-income households back to the community, while raising safety standards. Cousins created the East Lake Foundation, a new non-profit, to drive this change.

It would not be easy. Basically, Cousins was attempting to take a housing project out of government hands and put it in private hands. To do so, he would need to negotiate the bureaucracy of government officials as well as deep-seeded skepticism from East Lake residents and neighborhood leaders over his good intentions.

It wasn’t so much the horns of a dilemma as an effort to ride two bulls at the same time. In full, public view. And who really knew if his plan would work?

Enter a second key player in the East Lake miracle. In 1994, a Yale-educated corporate finance attorney name Renee Lewis Glover took over the Atlanta Housing Authority at the request of then-Mayor Maynard Jackson. Glover had no experience in public housing management, but she had smarts, practical sense, and faith in the idea that public/private partnerships could create better communities than government had alone.

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Her fresh eye saw immediately that many of Atlanta’s public housing communities were no longer serving families but instead isolating them in pockets of poverty. She was convinced there was a better way.

Glover undertook some controversial changes. One presaged the project at East Lake. Under HOPE VI, a federal program that pays to tear down obsolete housing projects and replace them with better facilities, Glover demolished two careworn Atlanta projects, Techwood and Clark Howell Homes, and replaced them with spanking-new Centennial Place, a mixed-income project developed and managed by a private company.

The stage was set for East Lake.

It was the end of the Olympic year, 1996, and Cousins and Glover had hammered out a deal. The Atlanta Housing Authority would demolish the existing East Lake Meadows complex, all 650 units, then help finance a phoenix development on the site. That new community, the Villages of East Lake, would consist of 542 apartments, controlled by an affiliate of the East Lake Foundation. Cousins would lease the complex for 55 years, until it reverted back to the city in 2054 — a century after Cousins began his career in Atlanta.

“All looked good on paper. Now came the hard part.”

Eva Davis, the leader of the East Lake Residents Association, had deep misgivings about the proposed changes. She expressed them honestly, fully, and sometimes stridently. Davis had been an activist all her adult life, and she put in foot-soldier hours for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. the year before his assassination. She’d seen good intentions pave too much of the road to hell.

It took the Cousins team more than 200 meetings with Davis and other tenant leaders — some acrimonious and in full view of television cameras — to win over the East Lake Meadows community. Cousin’s son-in-law, UGA-trained lawyer Greg Giornelli, served as the executive director of the East Lake Foundation from 1994-2001. He explains why it took a while to gain trust.

“Nobody could see an example of a community like this that was up and running,” he says. “There was nothing you could point to and say, here’s what you’ll get. Hopefully, that’s one of the advantages of East Lake now. It gives people an example of how it works.”

The sometimes heated challenge to his motives surprised Cousins. He hadn’t fully considered that his pet project might prompt hundreds of years of pent-up anger to surge to the surface of the African-American community. Gradually, carefully, caring, Cousins and his team persuaded residents that the concept would work, that his motives were genuine. Slowly, grudgingly, but surely, the diatribes in town halls became dialogue, then diagrams.

Davis and the residents did some convincing too, pushing for an unproven mixed-income model. They wanted half the apartments in the Villages of East Lake to house low-income families, and half to house market-rate renters. The 50-50 mix worked like a charm, and market-rate units remain in high demand. Other ground rules: Everyone who lives in the community must have a job, or be looking for one. (Some residents work for the Villages in various roles.) About 25 percent of eligible residents who moved out at demolition resettled there.

Davis, speaking with Philanthropy magazine in a 2004 interview, admitted, “The hardest thing to earn was my trust. I’ve seen a lot of people — preachers and all — come and make promises, only to leave.”

And in the 2007 CNBC interview, a thoughtful Davis said of Cousins, “As I got to know him better and better, I fell in love with the man and his family.”

By 2000, love and trust had helped dismantle a failed community and put a successful one back in its place. The East Lake community includes a new YMCA, an early learning center, and the Charles R. Drew Charter School — a $17.5 million facility with all but $1.5 million from private funding.

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“Every parent wants this kind of school for their children,” says Carol Redmond Naughton, vice president of Purpose Built Communities. “Drew will continue to serve as the anchor institution in the community.”

The school bustles with the energy of kids, their art hanging everywhere, sunlight pouring in. It’s a metaphor for all of East Lake, like anything and everything is possible. “Tom likes to say you save people one at a time. But you’re much more likely to save a community if you’re given the opportunity to start with a great educational foundation when they’re young,” says J. Don Edwards, an East Lake Foundation board member and professor emeritus at UGA’s Terry College of Business. “The Drew School has graduated nearly 600 eighth graders so far. They have Drew ready for high school and preparing postsecondary education. That, in itself, is transformative.”

Has East Lake worked? A 2004 study by Thomas Boston, an economics professor at Georgia Tech, gave it a huge thumbs up. There’s a new Publix supermarket anchoring the community now, and successful smaller businesses blossoming. Property values around the Villages development have soared. New houses have gone up. Violent crime has been reduced 95 percent. Only 5 percent of adults rely on welfare. In 2009, 84 percent of the fifth graders met or exceeded state standards for math. (Editors Note: That figure is now 99 percent.) Finally, instead of 14 percent employment in the community, the number stands at 71 percent.

Oh. And then there’s that silly game. Golf.

“(Golf) has become the economic engine powering East Lake.”

Cousins bought the East Lake Country Club and originally thought of improving the neighborhood first — till he realized that the club could help support the revitalization efforts. He picked up the noble old property when it was nearly bankrupt, a businessman buying an investment piece. Smart move, since the game has become the economic engine powering East Lake.

East Lake Golf Club has preserved a dimension of wealth and prestige in the neighborhood. It’s “golf with a purpose,” as members like to say. They pony up $100,000 to join, another $10,000 a year in dues. Then there’s a “suggested” contribution on joining of $200,000; the money goes to the East Lake Foundation, which supports programs serving the children, teens, and adults in the neighborhood.

The club hosts the PGA Tour’s season-ending Tour Championship. Meanwhile, Cousins is doing his part to democratize the game, adding a new set of public links, the Charlie Yates golf course, its lush fairways fronting the Villages of East Lake — making the game Cousins loves an everyday feature in the lives of the mostly minority children that live there. These kids can choose recreational activities through The First Tee of East Lake, a golf and life skills program based at the Yates course.

Can this community course be the future of golf itself? One of the young players on the Charlie Yates course seems to answer the question wordlessly during a visit from a journalist. The teenager squares up, takes a deep breath, and crushes the ball — 250 yards down the middle of the fairway. Tiger, watch your back.

“I’ve seen a lot of attempts to do what you did. Most failed.”
—Warren Buffet

So, about that short note from Warren Buffet. We come now to our next chapter.

To give the East Lake Model legs, Cousins, Buffet, and philanthropist-businessman Julian Robertson founded Purpose Built Communities. The new nonprofit is headed by former UGA president Charles Knapp, who says, “Our fondest hope is that 10 years down the line we have worked ourselves out of a job. We’d love to see this process so deeply ingrained that it’s just the way we do business in this country.”

In effect, Purpose Built Communities acts as a consultancy to leaders in other communities who see value in a holistic approach to transforming trouble spots.

Earlier this year, Buffet flew to New Orleans to join Cousins and Alex Robertson, Julian’s son, at the inaugural meeting of Purpose Built Communities Network Members. The trio held a press conference with national and local media, then attended a luncheon event with two local enthusiasts, Louisiana Governor Bobby Jindal and newly elected New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu.

“This isn’t about better housing,” said Jindal of the Bayou District Foundation, which is a member of Purpose Built Communities. “It’s also saying to our children, you have the opportunity to have a better life than your parents. That’s the American Dream.”

Local dignitaries and business people sat packed in with representatives from the Network — the key developers and community officials from Georgia, Indiana, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Tennessee, and other states. They’re taking a good hard look at how Purpose Built Communities and East Lake work.

Can this model really be successful everywhere? Or has Cousins been a unique champion with unique resources and influences to bring into play? Can an East Lake miracle become a Watts miracle, say, or a Roxbury miracle?

“If you get the right people, and they care enough, you can change a community,” says Cousins. “You can especially make a difference in the lives of children.”

There’s an old saying: It takes a village to raise a child. In some cases, it may take the children to raise a village.

To learn more about the Villages at East Lake and Purpose Built Communities, be sure to attend the Opening Session of the 2011 Tri-State ASLA Conference, April 28, 7 p.m. at the W Atlanta-Buckhead hotel.
Meet Your 2010-2011 Executive Committee

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# April Events

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<td>On-Site Stormwater Management</td>
<td>GA Center for Continuing Education</td>
<td>Update and upgrade the applied skills of stormwater management. Contact: Neal Weatherly, <a href="mailto:NWeath@uga.edu">NWeath@uga.edu</a> or 706-542-0943. See: <a href="http://www.georgiacenter.uga.edu/cch/register/site-stormwater-management">link</a></td>
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<td>15-16</td>
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<td>Annual Alumni Weekend</td>
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<td>Contact: Audra Lofton, <a href="mailto:Alofton@uga.edu">Alofton@uga.edu</a> or 706-542-4724. See: <a href="http://www.ced.uga.edu/index.php/alumni/detail/cedaaw">link</a></td>
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<td>28-30</td>
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<td>2011 Tri-State ASLA Conference</td>
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<td>ASLA chapters from Georgia, South Carolina, and North Carolina congregate for a joint conference. See: <a href="http://www.3state2011.com">link</a></td>
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<td>Atlanta Botanical Garden Tour</td>
<td>W Atlanta-Buckhead</td>
<td>Limited tickets. See: <a href="http://www.3state2011.com/Tours.aspx">link</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Thursday 2 to 4 p.m.</td>
<td>Buckhead Greenroof Tour</td>
<td>W Atlanta-Buckhead</td>
<td>Limited tickets. See: <a href="http://www.3state2011.com/Tours.aspx">link</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Thursday 6 to 9 p.m.</td>
<td>Opening Reception and Session 2011 Tri-State ASLA Conference</td>
<td>W Atlanta-Buckhead</td>
<td>Keynote: Carol R. Naughton, Purpose Built Communities. See: <a href="http://www.3state2011.com/Keynotes.aspx">link</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Friday 2 to 5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Professional Head Shots</td>
<td>W Atlanta-Buckhead</td>
<td>Photographer Ken “Max” Parks will be available to take professional head shots for the benefit of conference attendees. See: <a href="http://www.3state2011.com/Photographer.aspx">link</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Friday 7 to 10 p.m.</td>
<td>Tri-State Professional &amp; Student Awards Reception and Banquet</td>
<td>W Atlanta-Buckhead</td>
<td>Keynote: Susan M. Hatchell, President-Elect ASLA. See: <a href="http://www.3state2011.com/Keynotes.aspx">link</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Saturday 2 to 4 p.m.</td>
<td>SEGWAY Tour of Downtown Atlanta</td>
<td>W Atlanta-Buckhead</td>
<td>Limited tickets. See: <a href="http://www.3state2011.com/Tours.aspx">link</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Saturday 2 to 4 p.m.</td>
<td>Atlanta Beltline Tour</td>
<td>W Atlanta-Buckhead</td>
<td>Limited tickets. See: <a href="http://www.3state2011.com/Tours.aspx">link</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Saturday 1 to 4 p.m.</td>
<td>Atlanta Braves vs. St. Louis Cardinals</td>
<td>Turner Field</td>
<td>Limited tickets. See: <a href="http://www.3state2011.com/Tours.aspx">link</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**28-30 April 2011 Tri-State Conference**

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